



Midstate Electric Cooperative, Inc.

Your Consumer Owned Utility

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April 26, 1993

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**Federal Communication Commission
1919 M Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20554**

Attn: Secretary Federal Communication Commission;

Subject: Comments on changes to private land mobile radio

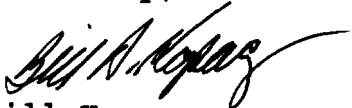
environmental impact due to the site itself, the access roads, and the necessary power lines. If power levels are changed to the extent that more sites are needed to provide radio coverage of our service area, there will be environmental impacts to be considered. In fact for environmental reasons additional sites may be difficult if not impossible to obtain. Once again, the needs of individual areas need to be addressed

Some background on Midstate Electric Cooperative and our need for radio coverage may be helpful. Midstate Electric is a rural electric cooperative owned by 12,000 members. Midstate serves a 7500 square mile area in central Oregon near the towns of LaPine, Sunriver and Christmas Valley. The terrain of this service area varies from mountains to high desert. A good part of this area is controlled by the Forest service and Bureau of Land Management. Our radio communication needs are typical of most utilities, they involve public safety, public convenience, as well as business related matters. Our goal is to provide safe, reliable electric service to our consumers and a safe working environment for our employees. Adequate radio communications are essential to meet these needs.

We ask careful consideration be given to address not only the needs of Midstate Electric Cooperative, but also the several hundred rural utilities that serve across the United States. Providing adequate radio coverage to rural customers has unique problems compared to those in urban areas.

Thank you for your consideration of these comments.

Sincerely,



Bill Kopacz
General Manager

cc:Ms. Sara Baker-Sifford, ORECA